<u>Claim Amendment Summary</u>

**Claims pending**

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-7, 15-19, 64 and 65.

- After this Response: Claims 1-7, 15-19, 64, 65, and 67-71.

**Canceled or Withdrawn claims:** none.

**Amended claims:** 1, 7, 15, 64, and 65.

**New claims:** 67-71.

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<u>Claims:</u>

1.    (CURRENTLY AMENDED)    A computer-implemented method for hashing a body of text, the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text <u>containing textual content in a computer-readable format;</u>

<u>formatting the body of text into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted body of text is immutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;</u>

deriving a hash value representative of <u>the textual</u> content of the body of text, perceptually distinct bodies of text having hash values that are substantially independent of each other.

2.    (ORIGINAL)    A method as recited in claim 1, wherein perceptually distinct bodies of text have hash values that are independent of each other.

3.    (ORIGINAL)    A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising comparing hash values of two bodies of text to determine if such values match.

4.    (ORIGINAL)    A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising comparing hash values of two bodies of text to determine if such values substantially match.

5.    (ORIGINAL)    A method as recited in claim 4 further comprising indicating whether such values substantially match.

6.    (ORIGINAL)    A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 1.

7.    (CURRENTLY AMENDED)    A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3.

Claims 8-14 are CANCELED.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-implemented method for hashing a body of text, the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text <u>containing textual content in a computer-readable</u> <u>format;</u>

<u>formatting the body of text into a defined image-based format, wherein the</u> <u>textual content of the defined image-based formatted body of text is immutable via</u> <u>software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;</u>

deriving a hash value representative of the body of text, perceptually similar bodies of text having proximally similar hash values.

16. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 15 further comprising comparing hash value of a body of text to determine if such value is proximally near hash values of a group of bodies of text having proximally clustered hash values.

17. (ORIGINAL) A method as recited in claim 16 further comprising grouping the body of text with the group of bodies of text if the hash value of such body is proximally near the values of the group.

18. (ORIGINAL) A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.

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any: Kasey C. Christie

PAGE 6/19 * RCVD AT 12/30/2004 2:43:39 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/4 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:509 323 8979 * DURATION (mm-ss):05-08

19. (ORIGINAL) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 16.

Claims 20-63 are CANCELED.

64. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format;

formatting the body of text into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted body of text is immutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

deriving a hash value representative of the textual content of the body of text, perceptually distinct bodies of text having hash values that are substantially independent of each other.

65. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format;

formatting the body of text into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted body of text is immutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

deriving a hash value representative of the body of text, perceptually similar bodies of text having proximally similar hash values.

66. (CANCELED)

67. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 4 further comprising indicating suspicion of plagiarism between the two bodies of text when the compared hash values of the two bodies of text substantially match.

68. (NEW) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences.

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69.    (NEW)    A method as recited in claim 1, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences and the derived hash value is representative of all of the textual content of the body of text.

70.    (NEW)    A method as recited in claim 15, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences.

71.    (NEW)    A method as recited in claim 15, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences and the derived hash value is representative of all of the textual content of the body of text.